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Department of Safety

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NH Paramedic Refresher Process – Clarification

Recently it has come to our attention that there may be some confusion about the difference between continuing education and modular refresher programs for Paramedics.

New Hampshire Administrative Rule Saf-C 5913.04, which went into effect in 2002, states that paramedics are required to complete a State authorized refresher training program that meets or exceeds US DOT curriculum (2001). The Administrative Rule does not recognize the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) refresher by continuing education process.

It is understood that there are some paramedics who have chosen to use this process for refreshing in the past. Any Paramedic in NH who has a NREMT expiration date of 3/31/2008 and is in the process of re-registering via the National Registry policy of continuing education, is able to continue on your course. However, you will need to contact the Bureau of EMS, Education Coordinator Eric Perry at (603) 271-2661 for further guidance. Effective April 1, 2008 refreshing via the NREMT continuing education process will not be allowed.

Many instructors choose to teach their refresher in a modular fashion, this practice is authorized by the Bureau of EMS. An example of this would be an agency that holds monthly training that cover a part of the EMT-P RTP objectives each time. Over several months all of the objectives of the curriculum are met. When a paramedic completes all of the objectives and time requirements of the RTP curriculum, they have completed the refresher training program and the State has been notified (standard I/C process) a Certificate of Completion will be issued by the Bureau. An instructor can request authorization of this type of schedule in the same manner he/she would for a traditional refresher.

Paramedics also have the option to take a more traditional scheduled refresher where 48 hours of classroom time is completed in a more condensed time frame rather than spread out of many months. Instructors have the flexibility to design their programs however they desire so long that they meet all the objectives and time requirements, and have their program authorized by the State of New Hampshire, Bureau of EMS.

In addition to the refresher methods above, NH recently approved the NREMT Exam-in-Lieu process with some NH specific additions. That process was released on September 5, 2007 and is available on the Bureau of EMS website.

Regardless of the methodology in which paramedics choose to take their refresher, they still have the additional requirement of 24 hours of continuing education in accordance with NREMT policy.

Fire Training – Certification – Fire Academy – Emergency Medical Services

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